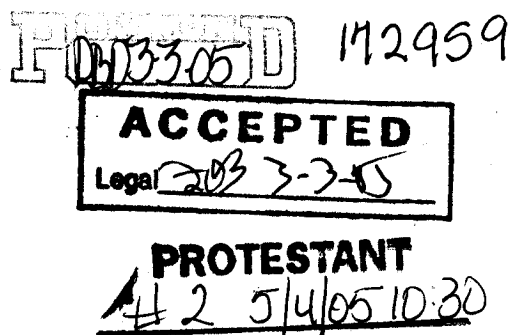


February 28, 2005

Docketing Department  
Public Service Commission of SC  
Post Office Drawer 11649

Ref: Docket No. 2004-357-WS



In reference to the proposed rate increase from \$28.86 to \$40.92 per month in the King's Grant area, and Plantation Ridge area, I find this increase to be not only ludicrous, but unacceptable as well.

This equates to a 42% increase (outrageous), and not consistent with the rate of inflation in our area. This appears to be an opportunity to claim unjustified profits, and certainly cover up poorly managed cost controls and / or decisions on the part of the petitioner.

Not being a property owner myself, but rather a renter in the Parler Dr. area in Ladson, my Landlord has already informed me of this situation and the additional costs that may be headed our way. This proposed atrocity for the average citizen in our area is shameful, especially when we rely on those we elected to support us, represent us, and keep these actions in check.

It's a disgrace to be vulnerable to this new proposed increase, when we are simply renters, who survive every day living from pay check to pay check to pay the rent and keep our lights on.

My fiancé and I have very little to support ourselves on. It would be a wonderful thing if someone else were to pick up the tab for all the new construction in this area and expansion. It's enough now for the Landlords in our area to be able to keep the rent within reasonable limits. If this increase is due to DHEC regulations, then they have not / or cared whatsoever on the impact to the consumer (in this case – the renters), in already well established and affordable living quarters. It is **NOT** a government agency's mandate to impose these regulations without consideration to the general public, which is the basis and existence of the government.

It is beyond my belief, that any company needs a 42% increase to its revenues in selected areas to offset cost increases. It is a shameful thing and a sad day indeed, when things such as this are pushed by us in legislation, with very little public information, until it's too late.

I feel my neighbor has been gracious in apprising me of this situation, and I agree that many of us who live in these areas addressed: King's Grant, Plantation Ridge and Parler Dr. have not only the right to ask this, but also the right to have someone **DO** something about it! This proposed increase is unacceptable, appalling and I find it extremely hard to swallow.

Sincerely:

Brian Hill  
214A Parler Dr.  
Ladson, SC 29456

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